

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/696,765

Examiner

Christopher R. Buchanan

Applicant(s)

LAMOUREUX ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed March 14, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 33-36, 40-43, 47-50 and 54-57.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/6/03, 8/23/02
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given via e-mail communication by Irah Donner on June 27, 2007.

Cancel claims 37-39, 44-46, and 51-53.

In claim 40, change dependency from claim 39 to claim 33.

In claim 47, change dependency from claim 46 to claim 34.

In claim 54, change dependency from claim 53 to claim 35.

In claim 33 on line 20, insert the following terminology at the end of the line:

-----which affects the amount of infrastructure functionality available to one or more users and wherein the variable level of trust comprises a first level of trust and a second level of trust and wherein the first level of trust is set by the at least one buy-side user and the second level of trust is set by the at least one sell-side user.-----

In claim 34 on line 13, insert the following terminology at the end of the line:

-----which affects the amount of infrastructure functionality available to one or more users and wherein the variable level of trust comprises a first level of trust and a second level of trust and wherein the first level of trust is set by the at least one buy-side user and the second level of trust is set by the at least one sell-side user.-----

In claim 35 on line 13, insert the following terminology at the end of the line:

-----which affects the amount of infrastructure functionality available to one or more users and wherein the variable level of trust comprises a first level of trust and a second level of trust and wherein the first level of trust is set by the at least one buy-side user and the second level of trust is set by the at least one sell-side user.-----

In claim 36 starting on line 2, delete the following terminology:

[wherein the variable level of trust comprises a first level of trust and a second level of trust, wherein the first level of trust is set by the at least one buy-side user and the second level of trust is set by the at least one sell-side user]

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 33-36, 40-43, 47-50, and 54-57 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art, Lipkin (US 6,721,747 B2), teaches managing information in an information system having a server, a client, and a database for computers, telecommunications and computer network systems, wherein the system generates metadata using an import agent, determines at least one match using a match agent, and dispatches the match or a result associated with the match using a delivery agent, wherein a match template compares a first set of metadata with a second set of

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metadata, dynamically generates a query based on the first set of metadata, and executes the query against the second set of metadata.

The prior art lacks the teaching of making a set of trusted relationship information available whereby a commercial transaction is facilitated and a trusted relationship is entered into between at least one sell-side user and at least one buy-side user and wherein the relationship includes a variable level of trust which affects the amount of infrastructure functionality available to one or more users and wherein the variable level of trust comprises a first level of trust and a second level of trust, wherein the first level of trust is set by the at least one buy-side user and the second level of trust is set by the at least one sell-side user.

The limitations lacking in the prior art, in combination with the other limitations clearly claimed for patent, are novel and unobvious.

The foreign prior art, Wacławski (WO 99/44145) provided by applicant, teaches a method for processing metric data gathered by collection agents, wherein the datasets are sorted by various attributes and tables are constructed from the sorted datasets.

The foreign prior art lacks the teaching of making a set of trusted relationship information available whereby a commercial transaction is facilitated and a trusted relationship is entered into between at least one sell-side user and at least one buy-side user and wherein the relationship includes a variable level of trust which affects the amount of infrastructure functionality available to one or more users and wherein the variable level of trust comprises a first level of trust and a second level of trust, wherein

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the first level of trust is set by the at least one buy-side user and the second level of trust is set by the at least one sell-side user.

The limitations lacking in the prior art, in combination with the other limitations clearly claimed for patent, are novel and unobvious.

The non-patent literature, Milne et al. article, teaches collection of data regarding consumers for the purpose of making transactions via various channels and a means whereby consumers can opt-in or opt-out of sharing this data in order to maintain privacy.

The non-patent literature lacks the teaching of making a set of trusted relationship information available whereby a commercial transaction is facilitated and a trusted relationship is entered into between at least one sell-side user and at least one buy-side user and wherein the relationship includes a variable level of trust which affects the amount of infrastructure functionality available to one or more users and wherein the variable level of trust comprises a first level of trust and a second level of trust, wherein the first level of trust is set by the at least one buy-side user and the second level of trust is set by the at least one sell-side user.

The limitations lacking in the prior art, in combination with the other limitations clearly claimed for patent, are novel and unobvious.

Conclusion

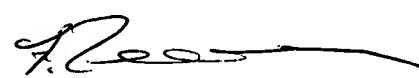
4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher R. Buchanan whose telephone number is 571-272-8134. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan Zeender can be reached on 571-272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CB

 7/1/07
F. Zeender
Supervisory Patent Examiner
A.U. 3627